

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (New): An electric switching device comprising:

one or plural power poles, each pole comprising a movable bridge equipped with at least one movable contact that co-operates with at least one fixed contact of the pole between open and closed positions;

an approach actuator acting on each movable bridge of the switching device configured to distance and bring together each movable contact and each corresponding fixed contact;

wherein each pole comprises a force actuator configured to establish contact pressure and contact disconnection between each movable contact and each corresponding fixed contact, without use of a mechanical restoring device.

Claim 13 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, wherein the approach actuator comprises an electrically controlled electromagnetic bistable linear actuator.

Claim 14 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, wherein the approach actuator comprises a Voice Coil actuator.

Claim 15 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, comprising a distinct approach actuator per pole acting on the movable bridge of each pole.

Claim 16 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, wherein the force actuator of a corresponding of the poles comprises at least one piezoelectric element acting on each fixed contact of the pole.

Claim 17 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, wherein the force actuator of a corresponding of the poles comprises at least one piezoelectric element acting on each movable contact of the movable bridge.

Claim 18 (New): An electric device according to claim 12, further comprising means for measuring current circulating in each power pole and linked to an electronic control unit configured to control a position of each approach actuator and corresponding force actuator.

Claim 19 (New): An electric device according to claim 18, wherein the electronic control unit comprises means for determining the position to regulate the position of each approach actuator.

Claim 20 (New): A method of switching a pole in an electric switching device according to claim 12, wherein closing movement of the contacts comprises an approach operation allowing the movable bridge to approach each fixed contact by an approach actuator and comprises a connecting operating allowing to establish a contact pressure between each movable contact of the movable bridge and each corresponding fixed contact of the pole by a force actuator.

Claim 21 (New): A method according to claim 20, wherein opening movement of the contacts comprises a disconnecting operation allowing to separate the movable contact of

the movable bridge and the fixed contact of the pole by a force actuator, then a distancing operation of the movable bridge by an approach actuator.

Claim 22 (New): A method according to claim 21, wherein the disconnecting operation is performed when the electric current circulating in the pole is less than a pre-set threshold.